



# WORLD

Technology News and Commentary for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People



**2023 CONFERENCE DETAILS INSIDE!**

**2023 TDIConference**



*Digital*  
**INCLUSION**  
*for all*

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Dulles, VA  
Permit No. 163

Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc. (TDI)  
P.O. Box 8009  
Silver Spring, Maryland  
20907

## **ALSO INSIDE:**

**BOARD VIEWS — pg 2**

**OUR QUEST FOR ACCESS — pg 3**

**TDI IN ACTION — pg 11**

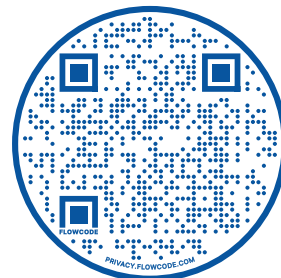


## Get the all-new Hamilton Mobile CapTel app today!

The new Hamilton Mobile™ CapTel® app is available for download on iOS devices! This feature-rich app delivers the same, trusted captioned telephone experience our customers have enjoyed at home and at work for years – now available at your fingertips wherever you go. Some exciting features include:

- Captions on incoming & outgoing calls
- Seamless syncing with device contacts
- Call Forwarding & Custom Caller ID
- Customizable font style, color & size of captions
- Choice of captioning method – Auto or Assisted
- And more!

It's available now at no cost for people with hearing loss – **download it today on your iOS device!**



081822

FEDERAL LAW PROHIBITS ANYONE BUT REGISTERED USERS WITH HEARING LOSS FROM USING INTERNET PROTOCOL (IP) CAPTIONED TELEPHONES WITH THE CAPTIONS TURNED ON. IP Captioned Telephone Service may use a live operator. The operator generates captions of what the other party to the call says. These captions are then sent to your phone. There is a cost for each minute of captions generated, paid from a federally administered fund. To learn more, visit [fcc.gov](http://fcc.gov). Voice and data plans may be required when using Hamilton CapTel on a smartphone or tablet. Hamilton CapTel may be used to make 911 calls but may not function the same as traditional 911 services. For more information about the benefits and limitations of Hamilton CapTel and Emergency 911 calling, visit [HamiltonCapTel.com/911](http://HamiltonCapTel.com/911). Third-party trademarks mentioned are the property of their respective owners. CapTel is a registered trademark of Ultratec, Inc. Copyright © 2022 Hamilton Relay. Hamilton is a registered trademark of Nedelco, Inc. d/b/a/ Hamilton Telecommunications.

## WHAT WE DO

**“TDI shapes the Nation’s public policies in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to advance the interests of the 48 million Americans who are deaf, hard of hearing, late-deafened, deafblind, and deaf with mobility issues.”**

## REGULAR COLUMNS

**Board Views ..... pg. 2**

Jan Withers, TDI President and Board Member, Southeast Region

**Our Quest for Access ..... pg. 3**

Eric Kaika, Chief Executive Officer

**TDI in Action (July – September, 2022)..... pg. 11**

Contact TDI WORLD editor for reprints of articles in PDF format.

*TDI WORLD* is published quarterly by TDI to provide information about telecommunications, media and information technology access for people who are deaf, late-deafened, hard of hearing and deaf-blind. You may freely copy and distribute all or portions of *TDI WORLD* for non-commercial use with credit given to TDI. TDI has no affiliation with any company advertised, and the mention of company names, products and services in the articles herein comes solely from the authors’ own experiences and does not imply accuracy nor endorsement by TDI. Furthermore, TDI does not warrant any products or services mentioned in *TDI WORLD* to be in compliance with any applicable federal, state or local disability access laws and regulations or industry standards.



**TDI**

# WE ARE HIRING

## ••• DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

TDI is seeking to hire a contract-based Development Coordinator to help coordinate development efforts with industry partners.

For more information see:  
[www.tdiforaccess.org](http://www.tdiforaccess.org)

**APPLY NOW**

Position open until filled.



# WORLD

**Volume 53.3**

**Editor-in-Chief:** Genelle Sanders

### TDI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### NORTHEAST REGION

Cassandra Boryslawskij, Treasurer  
Cm.Boryslawskij@TDIforAccess.org

#### SOUTHEAST REGION

Jan Withers, President  
Jan.Withers@TDIforAccess.org

#### MIDWEST REGION

John Kinster, Vice President  
jkinster@TDIforAccess.org

#### CENTRAL REGION

David Coco  
dcoco@TDIforAccess.org

#### WEST REGION

James House, Vice President  
JHouse@TDIforAccess.org

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Tina Childress  
tchildress@tdiforAccess.org

Curtis Humphries  
chumphries@TDIforAccess.org

Mei Kennedy, Secretary  
mkennedy@tdiforAccess.org

### TDI OFFICE STAFF

#### INTERIM CEO

David Coco  
dcoco@TDIforAccess.org

#### BUSINESS MANAGER

John Skjeveland  
Finance@TDIforAccess.org

#### DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

Genelle Sanders  
gsanders@TDIforAccess.org

#### DIRECTOR OF POLICY & ADVOCACY

Thomas P. Horejes  
thorejes@TDIforAccess.org

#### TDI

940 Thayer Ave #8009  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910  
[www.TDIforAccess.org](http://www.TDIforAccess.org)

#### TELEPHONE:

Phone (Voice/Video): 301-563-9112

To subscribe to *TDI eNotes*,  
send an email to  
PubRel@TDIforAccess.org

Follow **TDIforAccess** on



*Shaping An Accessible World*



## Board Views



**JAN WITHERS**

*TDI President and Board Member,  
Southeast Region*

**“The future  
belongs to those who  
believe in the beauty  
of their dreams.”;  
– Eleanor Roosevelt.**

## The Dream Lives On

I admit the saying, “with change comes opportunity,” seems like a cliché but I am pleased to note it is indeed the case for TDI. Although I am saddened to see Eric Kaika transition away from his role as TDI CEO to pursue new opportunities, several recent developments signal exciting opportunities for TDI’s ongoing work to realize our dream of communication equity for all.

A manifestation of the belief in the beauty of our dream is Eric Kaika’s commitment to provide consultative support on a part-time basis as TDI continues to grow and thrive. The Board of Directors will begin the TDI CEO search within the next few months.

One major recent development was envisioned by Kaika; with the Board’s review and approval, he created the positions of Director of Policy and Advocacy and Director of Programming. And he proceeded to search for and successfully recruit and secure two extremely talented individuals to fill these positions: Thomas Horejcs, Ph.D. and Genelle Sanders, Ph.D.

Starting in September, both Horejcs and Sanders have hit the ground running, fully embracing TDI’s mission and vision. Horejcs has already developed in-depth connections with TDI’s broad network of stakeholders and partners and taken specific actions critical to TDI’s policy advocacy, including the introduction of a bill in the United States Congress to update the 21 st Century Communication and Video Accessibility Act, now called the Communications, Video, and Technology Accessibility Act (CVTA – see [cvtaccess.org](http://cvtaccess.org) for more details). Sanders successfully coordinated the annual TDI Holiday Party and has plunged into preparations for the 2023 TDI Biennial Conference. She will also manage the transition later this year to the digital version of TDI World, the continued growth of TDI’s Blue Book as well as cultivate her relations with

TDI members. It is wonderful to see how well they are working as a team to coordinate TDI action and messaging. Two recent examples of this teamwork are the well-attended and well-received TDI Training Institute virtual event called FCC Fireside Chat and the more frequent, well-designed, and informative posts on TDI social media (#TDI #TDIForAccess).

Another development is the appointment of David Coco, Ph.D., as TDI’s Interim CEO. Coco has temporarily relinquished his authority as a Director (representing the Central region) on TDI’s Board of Directors and has been functioning effectively in his current role on a part-time basis, providing leadership and coordination. Coco is a retired physicist with a wealth of experience in supervision and management as well as service on other nonprofit boards.

Also, we have a new Member-at-Large on TDI’s Board of Directors: Curtis Humphries. Hard of Hearing since the age of three, Humphries has applied his lived experience and various skills to an impressive career of 40-plus years as an executive leader, general manager, marketing executive and private consultant in various fields before retiring from the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing as their Business Operations Administrator.

I would also like to take this opportunity to announce some bittersweet news.

Blake E. Reid, Clinical Professor and long-time lead at the Samuelson-Glushko Technology Law and Policy Clinic at Colorado Law, has accepted an offer to join the tenure-track faculty at Colorado Law starting next fall. During Professor Reid’s decade at the Clinic, he has provided truly consequential policy leadership promoting advances in Information and Communication Technology for Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind people nationwide.

**DREAM LIVES ON** continued on page 6

## Our Quest for Access



**ERIC KAIKA**  
Managing Editor

**“...and it was then that I began to truly understand the full extent of TDI’s value.”**

## This is the beginning of anything you want.

**T**he realization that this is my final column is bittersweet. I notified the board in early September of my desire to leave my position because I felt the need to step back and recalibrate. I also wanted to preserve the growth and opportunities created for the next generation of TDI.

For the past six years, I’ve dedicated a tremendous amount of my time and talent — and thought I would be here for only two years. My initial objective was to work at TDI to support my family’s immediate needs while pursuing a master’s degree in landscape architecture at the University of Maryland.

When I first came onboard back in 2016 as a grant-funded project manager, the main objective was to create a web-based, speech-to-text captioning app with real-time remote editing capabilities. The project was successfully launched within the year; unfortunately, within a few months one of its core application programming interfaces (API) was unexpectedly discontinued. The need for a rapid transition to a new API severely stunted TDI’s ability to invest in promoting the live captioning app and developing a user base. Today the app’s source code is available as an open source on GitHub ([Github.com/TDIforAccess/live-captioning](https://github.com/TDIforAccess/live-captioning)).

Even though my primary focus was the development of the live captioning app, I couldn’t help but peek into TDI’s day-to-day activities— and it was then that I began to truly understand the full extent of TDI’s value.

TDI is really a public policy arm of the deaf and hard of hearing community. Its biggest contribution by far was and is the wealth of information it shared with federal policymakers about the inequities in telecommunications, television, radio, Internet and related information and communication technologies that deaf and hard of hearing people experience.

What I never realized was that all the federal policies affecting deaf and hard of hearing people had been heavily influenced by TDI’s hard work. TDI was not an organization that just annually published the Blue Book— it was so much more. On average, TDI submitted 30 policy comments annually on issues relating telecommunication relay services, closed captioning, emergency communications, and more.

When the funding for my project expired, by happenstance the Director of Public Relations position opened, and I moved into that position to further support TDI’s mission and activities. For the next four years, I was unrelenting in helping TDI modernize its operational efficiency and implemented a number of time- and cost-saving measures as TDI became a fully virtual organization.

The membership database transitioned from MySQL, an open-source database, to Salesforce. Membership renewals were automated, no longer being stuffed and mailed by hand. Online giving funneled via our website updated our supporters’ contributions and instantaneously acknowledged them. TDI’s social media accounts were consolidated into a single management platform, allowing cross-posted messages all at once. Websites were built from the ground up (TDIforAccess.org twice, TDIconf.com, and TDIBlueBook.com). Data analytics were installed across the board, enabling clearer, real-time data on TDI external-facing interactions.

All of this was accomplished while supporting three straight years of back-to-back events: the 2017 biennial conference, the 2018 gala, and the 2019 biennial conference, in addition to TDI’s annual holiday party. And then there was the Blue Book’s transition to an online publication with a member login system. Around this time, Claude

**ANYTHING YOU WANT** continued on page 6



**GENELLE SANDERS, PH. D.**  
*Director of Programing*



**TOMMY P. HOREJES, PH.D.**  
*Director of Policy & Advocacy*



**DR. DAVID COCO**  
*Central Regional Representative*



**CURTIS HUMPHRIES**  
*Member-at-large*

## TDI Adds New Staff for 2023

TDI is pleased to announce the addition of Tommy P. Horejcs, Ph.D. and Genelle Sanders, Ph.D. to our team. Dr. Horejcs joins TDI as the Director of Policy & Advocacy and oversees TDI's response to FCC filings, gathering community input, and comments. Dr. Sanders joins TDI as the Director of Programming and oversees TDI's programs including Blue Book, TDI's Biennial Conference, and *TDI World*. Both will report to the CEO and work closely with community and industry stakeholders.

### Dr. Genelle Sanders

Dr. Genelle Sanders holds a Ph.D. in Interpersonal Communications at the University of Texas at Austin. Her research focused on interpersonal communication and patterns within deaf-hearing relationships and communities. She comes with 12 years of experience in communications, marketing, and research along with 10 years of teaching in higher education. She worked to pilot the current Deaf and Hard of Hearing Mentor and Role Model program based in Texas with the goal of supporting positive communication skills and relationship development during early childhood for deaf and hard of hearing children. She was also the elected Interim director of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center in South Texas during

a time of transition and worked on supporting communication access needs while strengthening information dissemination and awareness of Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind, and DeafDisabled communities.

She currently lives in South Texas with her husband and two young children. When not busy with work, she enjoys traveling, playing tennis, and remaining active with her friends and family.

### Dr. Thomas P. Horejcs

Dr. Thomas P. Horejcs is TDI's newest Director for Policy & Advocacy. He holds a Ph.D. (2009) in Justice Studies at Arizona State University whose focus is on current social justice issues, such as human rights against a backdrop of legal systems, law and culture to create meaningful, real-world impact through public policy and systems change.

Thomas is former Executive Director of Deaf Empowerment Awareness Foundation (DEAF, Inc.), a non-profit organization dedicated to empower, raise Awareness, and bridge a sustainable Foundation of advocacy, communication and accessibility for the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind, and the Hearing communities. He was also a former advocate for the Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness

(GLAD), the largest deaf-run non-profit organization that provided advocacy and empowerment in the areas of law, education, employment, health, technology, communication, and Social Security to deaf and hard of hearing consumers. He also served as Disability Policy Analyst/Inclusion Services for the City of Phoenix.

Academically, Dr. Horejcs has over 15 years of teaching in higher education, 14 peer-reviewed published articles including (Re) conceptualizing Disability Policy Frameworks for the Journal of Policy Practice, and presented 73+ scholarly works on policy, accessibility, education, and justice studies for industry conferences, including the International Sociological Association and the American Educational Research Association.

His vocation is serving the deaf/hard of hearing and hearing communities in the spirit of enhancing communication access for and to all. Most of his training in both the academic and professional canon is a multidisciplinary focus on policy studies, research methods, institutional assessment, communication accessibility, and public administration. He is a firm believer that knowledge belongs to

**NEW HIRES** continued on page 5



**NEW HIRES** Continued from page 4

public communities for the greater benefit of citizenship and collective civil accountability. He takes great passion doing research on policy trends, consumer service, education/training, and related-issues with the denominating factor being high quality education & communication access for and to all.

He currently lives in Maryland with his wife and a blended family of six very active children. When he is not busy with policy advocacy work, he enjoys watching his kids play baseball/soccer/volleyball, road biking, cooking, and tending to his farm animals.

**Dr. David Coco**

Dr. David Coco is a space physicist who led a team at the University of Texas at Austin in developing GPS for over 20 years. Dr. Coco also served as a Program Manager at the Statewide Outreach Center at Texas School for the Deaf where he managed the Distance Learning team, coordinated university research projects, and managed a variety of outreach programs. Dr. Coco retired in 2019 and was elected to the TDI Board as the Central Regional Representative in 2021. Dr. Coco is a late-deafened adult who lost his hearing in high school and now uses voice, sign language, and a cochlear implant for communication.

**Curtis Humphries**

The TDI Board of Directors is happy to announce Curtis Humphries' selection as a member-at-large.

"Curtis' acceptance of this appointment is a source of great

honor for the TDI Board of Directors. He has had a long, storied career in telecommunications and business management, in both private and public sectors. He brings to the Board tremendous skills and knowledge. Along with a huge commitment to advocating for full accessibility in Information and Communication Technology. Please join me in giving Curtis a warm welcome." said Jan Withers, President of TDI.

Curtis Humphries, starting his first term as a Director, commented, "For years TDI has worked behind the scenes to push life-changing access for many people with disabilities. Now it's time to 'shout out to the world' about the excellent work done by TDI's hardworking team and board. I count it a joy to take part in their mission to assist 48 million deserving Americans today."

TDI is the nation's leading advocate for deaf and hard of hearing people's equitable access. It strives to strengthen access to telephone, radio, television, wire, satellite, and cable networks. Additionally, TDI monitors and comments on federal policies and rules involving access to information and communication technologies and best represents the diverse DHH community in its policy comments.

A statement from CEO, Eric Kaika: "I am thrilled to have fantastic talent and energy on the TDI team. We are looking forward to the expanding and growing TDI's reach and impact for our community and stakeholders. Please join us in welcoming Tommy and Genelle to TDI!"



## SCAM ALERT

**TDI would like to inform its members about the existence of unauthorized, potentially misleading websites that look similar to our official website.**

To ensure that you are accessing the correct information, please visit our official websites:

-  **TDIforAccess.org**
-  **TDIConf.com**
-  **TDIBlueBook.com**

Please be aware that any other websites claiming to represent TDI may contain misleading information or be fraudulent. We are actively working to have these websites removed. Please use caution when entering personal information or relying on the content of these websites.



**ANYTHING YOU WANT** Continued from page 3

Stout announced his retirement as Executive Director; I succeeded him in the midst of an ongoing pandemic.

My primary intentions as CEO were to help TDI not only regain its footing after the pandemic but also be better positioned for future expansion, including streamlining fiscal and administrative functions and enhancing its revenue performances. The pandemic was also a blessing in disguise. It forced us to do our first-ever fully virtual biennial conference, which positioned us to make up for lost time and money. By the time we entered 2021, TDI was financially stable and healthy. TDI is now fully virtual and well on its way to being fully digitized. I am pleased that the Blue Book is now online as an exciting crowd-sourcing tool; it was built fresh from the ground up with current information of deaf-owned entities and other businesses targeting the deaf and hard of hearing community. I also created three job opportunities, two with significant leadership roles.

And it was then that I had finally sat down and realized TDI is in good hands, especially with the phenomenal talents who recently joined TDI (see page 3) and that this is an opportunity for me to recalibrate my personal and professional life.

Although I have yet to start my master's studies, all my landscaping experience since 2016 went directly into my backyard. It is interesting to note that the same time I realized my TDI experience was coming to an end, the foundational design for my backyard landscape was ready for the next stage.

Theoretically, I was never supposed to be at TDI. But the world works in mysterious ways. I shifted from my career as a landscape architect to become the CEO of an incredibly important organization for the deaf and hard of hearing community.

I greatly appreciate the many incredible people and organizations with whom

I've worked over the last six years: Steve Jacobs, Tayler Mayer, Terry Berrigan, John Skjeveland, Blake Reid, Zainab Alkebsi, Lise Hamlin, Christian Vogler, Laura Moy, Tamar Finn, Danielle Burt, Karen Peltz Strauss, Clark Rachfal, Sarah Malaier, Angela Rogers, Gabriella Wojtanowski, Helena Scmitt, Donna Graff and Gary Viall, the wonderful folks at the FCC, especially the Disability Rights Office, the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, the Commissioners and their Disability Advisory Committee, the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Consumer Advocacy Network (DHHCAN), the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Alliance (DHHA), all of the policy experts and accessibly advocates who have sponsored, partnered, and coordinated with TDI, as well as past and present board members, and, of course, Claude Stout. Most importantly, my partner Karry Takeuchi, and beloved daughter, Ria, must be recognized. There are many others too, and I am truly appreciative of all your support in shaping an accessible world.

I know people will ask me: so what am I going to do now? The short answer is: Ikigai, a Japanese concept defined as a motivating force, something or someone that gives a person a sense of purpose or reason for living.

I've long harbored a desire to shape landscapes that creates a sensory experience within the DHH community, at the same time inspiring those who journey through this outdoor experience to admire and preserve this unique community and its culture.

Stepping away from TDI means I can put all my energy into finalizing my backyard, rebuilding Aspen Camp (AspenCamp.org), and designing Gallaudet University's campus as its Landscaping and Grounds Manager. This is the beginning of a perfect combination of my life and work experience. I look forward to meeting each and every one of you in either of these natural outdoor settings.

**DREAM LIVES ON** Continued from page 2

While Professor Reid's promotion is truly exciting, we at TDI will be sad to see him leave his current role. Nevertheless, Professor Reid has stated his intention to ensure a smooth transition over the next spring and summer, including conducting a search for his successor. He also intends to continue to stay engaged as a consultant/fellow to his successor in his new position and ensuring ongoing collaboration with TDI.

Opeoluwa Sotonwa, a Member-at-Large on TDI's Board, submitted with great regret his notice of resignation last October. During Dr. Sotonwa's tenure, he has made numerous thoughtful and critically important contributions to TDI, including updating and strengthening TDI's bylaws and providing leadership on TDI's diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. The Board has a plan in place to seek and appoint a successor within the next couple of months.

In the midst of all these developments, it is gratifying to see how strong our dream for a fully accessible world is and to see so many opportunities arise to fulfil that dream.

**In the meantime, please watch TDI's social media and website for updates. Specifically, below are things you will want to watch for:**

- 2023 TDI Biennial Conference, College Park, MD: July 27 – 29, 2023
- An opportunity to run for one of the three seats on the TDI Board of Directors which will become available in July 2023 when these terms expire (Northeast, Southeast and West regions)
- Elections will be held in late Spring 2023.



# 25TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

Register to attend or watch  
virtually at: **TDIConf.com**



FOR DETAILS, CONTACT  
[INFO@TDICONF.COM](mailto:INFO@TDICONF.COM)

**27-29 JULY 2023**  
**COLLEGE PARK, MD**





## A LOOK BACK AT THE

## 2021 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE



**Jessica  
Rosenworcel**

Chair, FCC



**Howard  
Rosenblum**

CEO, NAD



**Opeoluwa  
Sotonwa**

Commissioner, Massachusetts  
Commission for the Deaf and  
Hard of Hearing



**Zainab Alkebsi**

Policy Counsel, NAD



**Roberta  
Cordano**

President, Gallaudet University



**Suzy Rosen  
Singleton**

Chief, Disability Rights Office



**Raja  
Kushalnagar**

Director of Technology,  
Gallaudet University



**Dixie Ziegler**

VP, Hamilton



**Chris Soukup**

CEO, CSD



**Lise Hamlin**

Director of Public Policy,  
HLAA



**Karen Peltz  
Strauss**

Disability Access Consultant



**Monica Desai**

Vice President of Public  
Policy, Facebook

**and many more...**

# TDI *Digital* INCLUSION *for all* BIENNIAL CONFERENCE



**July 27-29, 2023**



**The Hotel at the U of MD  
777 Baltimore Avenue  
College Park, MD 20740**

Nine plenaries and twelve sessions on innovative and transformative ideas for strengthening equity in technology and digital spaces.

**REGISTER**

**[WWW.TDICONF.COM](http://WWW.TDICONF.COM)**

## TRACKS

**Education, Accessible Technology,  
Government, Health, Employment,  
and Telecommunications**

## WHAT TO EXPECT



**9 Plenaries and  
12 Sessions**



**400+ Attendees**



**Over 100+ Speakers**





## 2021 SPONSORS



Register at  
**[WWW.TDICONF.COM](http://WWW.TDICONF.COM)**

Details on hotel, sponsorship  
opportunities and exhibits  
also available on the web.



Contact us  
**Genelle Sanders**  
[gsanders@tdiforaccess.org](mailto:gsanders@tdiforaccess.org)

**AnnMarie Killian**  
[amkillian@tdiforaccess.org](mailto:amkillian@tdiforaccess.org)



# TDI In Action

July - September 2022

## CLOSED CAPTIONING

### Ex parte - Closed Captioning Display Setting Accessibility

MB Docket No. 12-108

■ (September 27) TDI along with NAD, HLAA, Gallaudet/TAP/CV, CSD underscored the substantial importance of accessible closed captioning display settings for viewers who are deaf, hard of hearing, or DeafBlind and the long-running problems that these viewers continue to face in being able to access closed captioning settings. We also noted that the failure to provide access to closed captioning display settings has not changed since these settings were first adopted in 2000, that this failure continued through Congress's enactment of the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act (CVAA) in 2010, and that it continues to persist since the initiation of this proceeding in 2015.

CTA claims that its members are "innovating with new products and services, including accessibility features,"<sup>6</sup> CTA did not respond to the extensive record of inaccessible caption display settings in our comments or cite any specific examples of technological progress on the accessibility of display settings. Given that these settings have remained inaccessible for two decades and the industry is unable or unwilling to act, it is time for the Commission to act in a design space that is not the subject of substantial market differentiation or innovation and has yielded relatively little improvement.

TDI has a meeting with CTA forthcoming.

<https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/filing/10920708200314>

## ADVANCED COMMUNICATION SERVICES

### Reply Comments of Accessibility Advocacy and Research Organizations regarding

Public Notice regarding the interoperable video conferencing services (IVCS)

CG Docket No. 10-213, WC Docket No. 12-375, GN Docket No. 21-140

■ (July 18 - reply • June 21 - comment) TDI along with others including the Accessibility Advocacy Research Organizations submitted comments and a reply to affirm that the CVAA's statutory definition of "interoperable video conferencing services," already in the Commission's rules,

accurately and fully reflects Congress's intent. The record supports that this result is both a sound exercise of statutory interpretation and would fulfill Congress's intent to ensure the accessibility, usability, and compatibility of IVCS in implementing the CVAA.

<https://tlpc.colorado.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2022.03.04-Accessibility-Advocacy-and-Research-Organizations-CC-Settings-Refresh-Reply-Comments-Reply-Comments-final.pdf>

### Peloton Request to Withdraw Petition for Limited Waiver

Docket Nos. 12-108 and 21-140

■ (July 20) TDI, with counsel of Samuelson-Glushko Law & Policy Clinic, agree with Peloton that withdrawal of the petition, combined with Peloton's ongoing commitments to ensure the accessibility of its products and services and the Commission's continuing oversight of Peloton's efforts, including with respect to Precor products, and those of the broader connected fitness industry, would serve the public interest

<https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/filing/1072093056521>

## EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

### FCC Votes & Approves on Emergency Alert Systems

PS Docket No. 15-94

■ (September 29) The FCC voted and passed unanimously on Emergency Alert Systems to improve the clarity and accessibility of Emergency Alert System (EAS) visual messages to the public, including persons who are deaf or hard of hearing as well as others who are unable to access the audio message. For example, FCC will direct EAS Participants (including radio broadcasters, television broadcasters, and operators of satellite, cable TV, and wireline video services) to check whether certain types of alerts are available in Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) format and, if so, to transmit the CAP version of the alert rather than the legacy-formatted version. The increased use of CAP-based alerts will produce higher-quality audio messages, improve the availability of multilingual alerts, and ensure that more of the alerts displayed on television screens contain all of the information provided by government agencies that initiate them.



## TDI In Action July - September 2022

Continued from page 11

- We require all EAS Participants to comply with the rules adopted in this order no later than one year from the effective date of the order (subject to the exceptions discussed below).

### OTHER

#### Authorizing Permissive Use of the “Next Generation” Broadcast Television Standard

Docket No. 16-142

- (September 6) TDI along with other organizations, as a collective, replied to FCC on the importance for the next generation television and its broadcasters to ensure their commitment toward compliance and quality assurance

through enhanced accessibility features from ATSC 1.0 to ATSC 3.0.

TDI continues to monitor this effort.

<https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/109060647821565/1>

#### FCC Votes & Approves on Calling Services for Carceral Settings

WC Docket No. 12-375

- (September 29) The FCC voted and passed unanimously on Calling Services for Carceral Settings to improve access to communications for incarcerated people with disabilities and reduce the financial burdens created by certain calling service charges and practices. This includes adoption of TRS services for all Carceral settings that has more than 50 inmates (ADP)

- This will take effect by, on, before Jan. 1, 2024

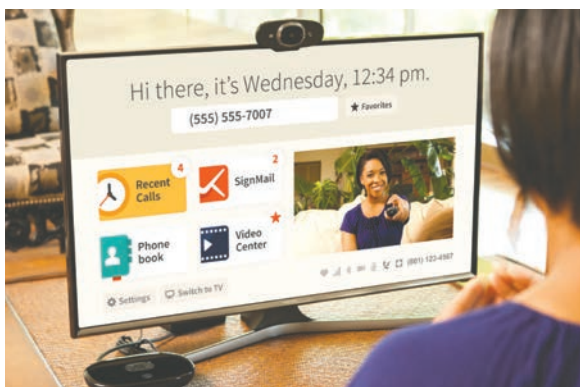
## NAD LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONFERENCE

September 21-23, 2023 | Albuquerque, New Mexico



SCAN FOR  
MORE INFO





## Join the Heartbeat of Communication

Experience the best possible VRS with easy-to-use, cutting-edge technology. Enjoy the clearest video, greatest features, and highest-quality interpreters available!

Sign up today at [sorenson.com](https://sorenson.com) or download our app at



Connecting **Life**



© 2021 Sorenson Communications, LLC. If you choose Sorenson as your default provider, you can port your existing 10-digit number to Sorenson from another provider or Sorenson can provide you with one for the geographic area where you live or work. If you later change your default provider, you can port your number to that provider. When selecting Sorenson, you must provide to Sorenson the physical address (i.e., the Registered Location) from which you are placing the call, so that Sorenson can properly route any 911 calls you may make. If you move or change your location, you must notify Sorenson immediately. You can update your Registered Location from your Sorenson videophone by calling 800-659-4810 or by visiting [www.svrs.com/moving](https://www.svrs.com/moving). Sorenson will confirm receipt of your Registered Location information. Emergency calls made via internet-based TRS may not function the same as traditional E911 service. For example, you may not be able to dial 911 if there is an internet-service failure or if you lose electrical power, and your 911 call may not be routed correctly if you have not updated your Registered Location. For more information on the process of obtaining 10-digit numbers and the limitations and risks associated with using Sorenson's VRS to place a 911 call, please visit Sorenson's website: [www.sorenson.com/disclaimer](https://www.sorenson.com/disclaimer). For more information on toll-free numbering, please visit [www.svrs.com/tollfree](https://www.svrs.com/tollfree).



# CONNECTING MADE EASY

Whether it's voice or text, from across the street or across the country, you can rely on Ultratec technology to keep you connected.



TTYs & captioned telephones

**Ultratec**

[www.ultratec.com](http://www.ultratec.com)

1-800-482-2424 (V/TTY)

[service@ultratec.com](mailto:service@ultratec.com)



CapTel 2400i includes Bluetooth® wireless technology

## CAPTEL® CAPTIONED TELEPHONES THAT FIT YOUR LIFESTYLE.



Low Vision Model  
CapTel 880i



Traditional Model  
CapTel 840i

FEDERAL LAW PROHIBITS ANYONE BUT REGISTERED USERS WITH HEARING LOSS FROM USING INTERNET PROTOCOL (IP) CAPTIONED TELEPHONES WITH THE CAPTIONS TURNED ON. IP Captioned Telephone Service may use a live operator. The operator generates captions of what the other party to the call says. These captions are then sent to your phone. There is a cost for each minute of captions generated, paid from a federally administered fund. No cost is passed on to the CapTel user for using the service. CapTel captioning service is intended exclusively for individuals with hearing loss. CapTel® is a registered trademark of Ultratec, Inc. The Bluetooth® word mark and logos are registered trademarks owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc. and any use of such marks by Ultratec, Inc. is under license. (v2.6 10-19)

